

- [ ] The foregoing detailed description demonstrates that the preferred embodiments of the present invention are well suited to fulfill the objectives of the invention. It is recognized that those skilled in the art may make various modifications or additions to the preferred embodiments chosen herein to illustrate the present invention, without departing from the spirit of the present invention. Accordingly, it is to be understood that the subject matter sought to be afforded protection should be deemed to extend to the subject matter defined in the appended claims, including all equivalents thereof.

## Claims

[c]

A computer based method for creating an electronic image displaying effect paint samples, said method comprising the steps of:

establishing a paint formula having an effect variable; and

generating the electronic image as a function of the paint formula.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the step of generating the electronic image includes the step of generating an intermediate image having an associated color.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 2, including the step of determining the associated color as a function of the paint formula.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 2, including the step of determining the associated color as a function of color values.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 4, including the step of determining the color values as a function of the paint formula.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 4, including the step of retrieving the color values from a database.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 2, wherein the step of generating the electronic image includes the step of modifying the intermediate image as a function of the effect variable.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 2, wherein the effect variable includes an associated attribute having an associated property.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 8, including the step of establishing the associated attribute.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 9, including the step of establishing the associated property.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 9, including the step of establishing the associated property as a function of the associated attribute.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 10, including the step of modifying the intermediate image as a function of the associated attribute.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 10, including the step of modifying the intermediate image as a function of the associated property.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 10, including the step of displaying the electronic image.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 10, including the step of applying a calibration factor to the color values.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the effect variable includes a sparkle effect.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the effect variable includes an intensity effect.

[c]

A computer based, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the effect variable includes a viewing angle.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 8, wherein the associated attribute is quantity.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 8, wherein the associated property is size.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 8, wherein the associated property is color.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 8, wherein the associated property is transparency.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 14, wherein the displayed electronic image includes a plurality of pixels.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein the electronic image includes a microscopic image of paint samples.

[c]

A computer based method, as set forth in claim 24, including the step of establishing the effect variable as a function of the paint formula wherein the effect variable includes a set of particle images.

[c]

A computer based method for creating an electronic image displaying effect paint samples, said method comprising the steps of:

establishing a paint formula having an effect variable, the effect variable including an associated attribute having an associated property;

determining an associated color as a function of the paint formula;

establishing a value of the associated attribute;

generating an intermediate image as a function of the associated color;

modifying the intermediate image as a function of the effect variable to generate the electronic image; and

displaying the electronic image.

[c]

A computer based method for creating an electronic image displaying effect paint samples, said method comprising the steps of:

establishing a paint formula having an effect variable, the effect variable including an associated attribute having an associated property;

determining an associated color as a function of color values;

establishing a value of the associated attribute;

generating an intermediate image having the associated color;

modifying the intermediate image as a function of the effect variable to generate the electronic image; and

displaying the electronic image wherein the displayed electronic image

includes a plurality of pixels.

[c]

A computer based method for creating an electronic image displaying effect paint samples, said method comprising the steps of:

establishing a paint formula having an effect variable wherein said effect variable represents a sparkle effect, the effect variable includes an associated attribute having an associated property, wherein the associated attribute is quantity and the associated property is size;

determining color values as a function of the paint formula;

establishing an associated color as a function of the color values;  
generating an intermediate image having the associated color;  
modifying the intermediate image as a function of the effect variable;  
applying a calibration factor to the color values; and  
displaying the electronic image wherein the displayed electronic image  
includes a plurality of pixels.

[c]

A computer based method for creating an electronic image displaying effect paint samples, said method comprising the steps of:

establishing a paint formula having an effect variable;  
establishing a set of particle images associated with each effect variable as a function of the paint formula;  
modifying the particle image as a function of the paint formula;  
generating an intermediate image as a function of the modified particle image;  
generating an electronic image as a function of the paint formula wherein the electronic image includes a microscopic image; and  
displaying the electronic image.

[c]

A computer system for creating an electronic image displaying effect paint samples, said system comprising:

a first module being for establishing a paint formula having an  
effect variable; and  
an image module, coupled to the first module, for  
generating the electronic image as a function of the paint formula.

[c]

A computer system, as set forth in claim 30, wherein the image module is adapted for generating an intermediate image having an associated color.

[c]

A computer system, as set forth in claim 30, wherein the first module is adapted for determining the associated color as a function of the paint formula.

[c]

A computer system, as set forth in claim 31, wherein the first module is adapted for determining the associated color as a function of color values.

[c]

A computer system, as set forth in claim 33, wherein the first module is adapted for determining the color values as a function of the paint formula.

[c]

A computer system, as set forth in claim 33, wherein the first module is adapted for retrieving the color values from a database.

[c]

A computer system, as set forth in claim 31, wherein the image module is adapted for modifying the intermediate image as a function of the effect variable.

[c]

A computer system, as set forth in claim 31, wherein the first module is adapted for establishing the effect variable as a function of the paint formula wherein the effect variable includes an associated attribute having an associated property.

[c]

A computer system, as set forth in claim 37, wherein the first module is adapted for establishing the associated attribute.

[c]

A computer system, as set forth in claim 38, first module is adapted for establishing the associated property.

[c]

A computer system, as set forth in claim 38, wherein the first module is adapted for establishing the associated property as a function of the associated attribute.

[c]

A computer system, as set forth in claim 39, wherein the image module is adapted for modifying the intermediate image as a function of the associated attribute.

[c]

A computer system, as set forth in claim 39, wherein the image module is adapted for modifying the intermediate image as a function of the associated property.

[c]

A computer system, as set forth in claim 39, wherein the image module is adapted for displaying the electronic image.

[c]

A computer system, as set forth in claim 39, wherein the image module is adapted for applying a calibration factor to the color values.

[c]

A computer system, as set forth in claim 30, wherein the effect variable includes a sparkle effect.

[c]

A computer system, as set forth in claim 30, wherein the effect variable includes an intensity effect.

[c]

A computer system, as set forth in claim 30, wherein the effect variable includes a viewing angle.

[c]

A computer system, as set forth in claim 37, wherein the associated attribute is quantity.

[c]

A computer system, as set forth in claim 37, wherein the associated property is size.

[c]

A computer system, as forth in claim 37, wherein the associated property is color.

[c]

A computer system, as forth in claim 37, wherein the associated property is transparency.

[c]

A computer system, as set forth in claim 39, wherein the displayed electronic image includes a plurality of pixels.

[c]

A computer system for creating an electronic image displaying effect paint samples, said system comprising:

a first module for establishing a paint formula having an effect

variable, the effect variable including an associated attribute having an associated property, determining an associated color as a function of the paint formula, and establishing the effect variable as a function of the paint formula wherein the effect variable includes an associated attribute having an associated property; and

an image module, coupled to the first module, for generating an intermediate image as a function of the associated color, and modifying the intermediate image as a function of the effect variable to generate the electronic image, and displaying the electronic image.

[c]

A computer system for creating an electronic image displaying effect paint samples, said system comprising:

a first module adapted for establishing a paint formula having an effect

variable, the effect variable including as associated attribute having an associated property, and determining an associated color as a function of color values; and

an image module, coupled to the first module, for generating an intermediate image as a function of the associated color and modifying the intermediate image as a function of the associated attribute to generate the electronic image, and displaying the electronic image, the displayed electronic image having a plurality of pixels.

[c]

A computer program product for creating an electronic image displaying effect paint samples, said product comprising:

computer readable program code means for establishing a paint formula